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TRAIL & *Landscape*

A PUBLICATION CONCERNED WITH
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BOTANICAL GARDEN



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The Ottawa Field ~ Naturalists' Club

— Founded 1879 —

President

W.K. (Bill) Gummer

Objectives of the Club: To promote the appreciation, preservation and conservation of Canada's natural heritage; to encourage investigation and publish the results of research in all fields of natural history and to diffuse information on these fields as widely as possible; to support and co-operate with organizations engaged in preserving, maintaining or restoring environments of high quality for living things.

Club Publications: THE CANADIAN FIELD-NATURALIST, a quarterly devoted to reporting research in all fields of natural history relevant to Canada; and TRAIL & LANDSCAPE, providing articles on the natural history of the Ottawa Valley and on Club activities five times a year.

Field Trips, Lectures and other natural history activities are arranged for local members; see "Coming Events" in this issue.

Membership Fees: Individual (yearly) \$20. Sustaining (yearly) \$50.
Family (yearly) \$22. Life (one payment) \$500.

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Welcome, New Members

Ottawa Area

Omar Ames
Don Beckett
Irene Bond & family
Art Borkent
Jim Bruce & family
Lois Burns
Betty Campbell
Sylvia Charbonneau
David Cutler
Ian & Maria Darragh
Carol & Don Decoff
Nicole Defretiere
Chris & Peter Duschinsky
Daniel Filipovic & family
Deirdre Furlong
Michael Gagne & family
Camyle Gaudreau
Joan Gray
Wilfred & Sheila Gynane
Robert Hazell
Michael Howe
B. Hunter
Laura Hutton
Geoffrey Katz
Julie Kenny
Yasmin Khan
Orysia Koelbleitner & family
Beverly Lee & family
Peggy Lee
Louise Leveille
Deborah S. Levey

James MacMillan
William Marsh & family
Elisabeth Marsollier
Pamela McLennan
Janet McQueen
Richard Monk & family
Corinne Morrison & family
Larry E. Neily
Oswald & Virginia Peck
Bertram Plimer & family
Diane Portelance
Doreen Powers
Ben Pwu
Gisele Quesnel
Connie Quirk
Karen Richter
Ivan Roy
Bridget Ryan
F.G. Savard & family
Daniel Simpson
Ona Spratt
Larry Stephens
Cathy Ternan
Barbara Thain
Piyanjali Tissaaratchy
Raymond Tse
Betty Tyers
W. Ken Vanden Bosch
Mary Alice Vermij
Eric & Jessie Wiles
Doug Wilson

Other Areas

William Boylan
Beeton, Ontario
J.L. D'Aoust
Montreal, P.Q.
Laurence Johnson
Coe Hill, Ontario
Helen M. Knight
Kamloops, B.C.
Suzanne MacLean
Kitchener, Ontario

Lynn Maslen
Edmonton, Alberta
R.W. Nero
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Brad Shults
Fairbanks, Alaska
Paul M. Willsteed
Mississauga, Ontario

Eileen Evans,
Chairman, Membership Committee.

Need for Office Space

Over the years, our Club has been able to operate on a shoestring by prevailing on the good graces of members who have provided their time and equipment at no cost. With the purchase of our computer in 1986, where to house it has been a recurring problem. Right now it is sitting in Barbara Martin's dining room!

The Club Executive feels that we must find a permanent and safe home for the computer and other club records. All efforts to find a suitable location over the past two years have been unsuccessful.

In an effort to resolve this problem, we are asking you, our members, if you can assist by identifying office space which may be available free or at a nominal rent. We will need about 25 square metres of space that is reasonably central, has an electrical outlet, and can be physically secured. Access to the space would be by Club members, often after normal working hours.

If you know of any space that might fit the bill, we would be very pleased if you would let Suzanne Blain know at 226-2615 or 226-6332.

Call for Nominations for OFNC Council

A Nominating Committee has been chosen by the Council to nominate persons for election to offices and membership of the Council for the year 1988, as required by the constitution.

We would like to remind Club members that they also may nominate candidates as officers and other members of the Council. Such nominations require the signatures of the nominator and seconder and a statement of willingness to serve in the specified position by the nominee. Nominations should be sent to the Nominating Committee, The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, Box 3264, Postal Station C, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4J5, to arrive no later than November 15, 1987.

The Committee will also consider any suggestions for nominees which members wish to submit to it by November 15th. It would be helpful if some relevant background on the proposed nominees were provided along with the suggested names.

Barbara Campbell
Chairman, Nominating Committee.

Wildlife '87 Garden: Get Involved!

Many city dwellers like the idea of a garden full of birds, butterflies and other wildlife. But, city and animals don't mix. Right?

The answer could be an emphatic "wrong", but it takes planning and knowledge to bring attractive wildlife into the city.

In this year of Wildlife '87, The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club is undertaking a project to help supply some of that planning skill and knowledge to all city dwellers with even a remote urge to "countryfy" their backyard.

The Club has started preparations to establish a Wildlife '87 Garden as a model for urban gardeners. It is meant to show Ottawa area residents that wildlife of all sorts can feel at home in the city.

At the time of writing, the Conservation Committee has started preliminary discussions with several public bodies that have large land holdings in the city. The idea is to reach an agreement with one of these organizations for the Club to have the use of a plot of land on which a model wildlife garden could be established and maintained by Club members.

By the time you read this, a site will likely have been chosen and an agreement reached. The final choice for the site will depend on such factors as location, growing conditions, local community considerations, access, variety of habitats, site enhancement possibilities and conditions placed on use of the land.

This is an opportunity for all OFNC members to catch the Wildlife '87 spirit. For all you amateur gardens, bird-box builders and just plain nature lovers, here is a chance to lend your expertise and skill to help convince all Ottawa area residents that cities and nature do mix. If the project takes off, it could be the basis for a sustained effort to further encourage city dwellers to think nature when putting in their gardens. Other spin-off activities, such as an award competition for the best Ottawa wildlife garden, are also being considered.

Volunteers are needed for the following activities:

1. garden planners (needed are knowledgeable people in such areas as gardening techniques, entomology and ornithology);
2. liaison people with the public land owners and other possibly interested organizations, such as horticultural societies;
3. organizers for equipment and material, including gardening tools, top soil, cuttings, gravel, signage, etc.;

4. fund raisers to cover any necessary costs;
5. teams to clear ground, plant, make signs, maintain garden and all the other pleasing physical activities to keep the project running over a long period of time;
6. promotion and public relations.

This coming winter will be a time for planning and organizing so we can be out with our hoes and shrubs in the spring.

If you feel you can lend a hand and some time to this project, please contact the Club number (722-3050 after 10 a.m.) and leave your name, telephone number and area of activity in which you wish to participate. You will be contacted. The more the merrier and everyone is welcome. Let's put Ottawa on the map as the "wildest" city in Canada.

Watch for bulletins on the progress of the Wildlife '87 Garden in coming issues of *Trail & Landscape*.

The Conservation Committee ▣

Bequests to The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club

Planned gifts to The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club may take many forms, including bequests. Gifts provide invaluable assistance to assure the continuity of our long term support of conservation efforts such as the Alfred Bog, the development of young naturalists through the Macoun Field Club, and support for our many other volunteer committees which provide members with an array of inexpensive trips, interesting lectures and publications such as *Trail & Landscape* and *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*.

For those who may wish to remember The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club in their last will and testament, the following form is suggested:

To The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club, a non-profit naturalists' club, Box 3264, Postal Station C, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4J5, I leave the sum of \$_____, or, I leave a gift of (name gift, e.g. shares of stock, securities, trust).

For further information, please contact the Club number (722-3050 after 10 a.m.).

Council Report

Fern D. Levine

New goals were established for all OFNC committees, and terms of reference - either revised or new - are currently under review for all committees by a special working group headed by Diana Laubitz.

Committee Reports

AWARDS: Two Honorary Memberships and the five Club awards were presented at the Soirée in May (see page 190).

BIRDS: After much planning and a lot of hard work, the material for the last issue of *The Shrike* has been assembled and printed, and was mailed to subscribers in July.

The Birds Committee has been involved with the Canadian Wildlife Service in the planning stages of the Peregrine Falcon release program taking place this summer.

The Bird Records Subcommittee has been constituted for 1987; its members are Roy John (Chairman), Gordon Pringle (non-voting Secretary), Michael Runtz, Mark Gawn, Bruce Di Labio, Bernard Ladouceur, Simon Gawn, Ross Anderson and Monty Brigham (alternate).

CONSERVATION: Wildlife '87: Council member and Conservation Committee Chairman, Lynda Maltby, presented an exciting and informative lecture and movie at the June 9th monthly meeting. Other committee activities include the protection of Alfred Bog and a proposal for an urban wildlife garden. The search is on for a suitable site on which to create a showpiece and example for the urban naturalist (see page 180).

During National Wildlife Week, April 5 - 11, the Club displayed information about Alfred Bog at the National Museum of Natural Sciences.

The committee continues to participate in local issues such as the management of the Marlborough Forest, the protection of Stony Swamp, the Crown Land management proposal for Lanark County, and regional and municipal waste management. Nationally, the preservation of South Moresby has been an active issue.

EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY: Members of the committee participated once again in judging at the Ottawa Regional Science Fair held at the National Museum of Science and Technology on April 11th. The two winning displays were produced by Immaculata High School students, Raymond Tse and Omar Ames for "Acid Rain" and Piyanjali Tissaaratchy for "What Drives Life" (photosynthesis). The

Committee is working more closely with other committees in order to promote the Club and has already reviewed means of achieving more suitable Club publicity, for example, a new Club display is being developed and there have been several radio interviews with OFNC members and Macoun Field Club members.

EXCURSIONS AND LECTURES: Another successful season of excursions and lectures was enjoyed. Topics were varied and discussions were lively. The monthly meetings are fairly well attended. It's a chance to meet new friends and broaden your naturalist horizons. We encourage participation in these events. Worth of note was the Point Pelee field trip led by Colin Gaskell and the special lecture, "Looking for the Wild", by Lyn Hancock. The latter had an unusually good turnout.

FEDERATION OF ONTARIO NATURALISTS: Jeff Harrison, OFNC Vice-President, was reappointed the Club representative to the FON Board of Directors.

MACOUN FIELD CLUB: The Macoun Field Club is becoming more actively involved with the OFNC and is encouraging new membership. A busy schedule was followed over the past school year. (See *Macoun What's What* in this issue and last.)

FINANCE: New Fee Schedule

The Club is naturally affected by the general level of rising costs of all of its programming including publications. The deficit has been forecast at over \$14,000 by the end of 1988 if there is no change in fees. (We actually went a year past the previously projected fee increase.)

The Finance Committee has carefully reviewed current and projected costs of operations, and the Council has now approved a new schedule of fees.

At the end of the current year, membership dues will rise as follows: Individual to \$20.00; Family to \$22.00; Sustaining to \$50.00; and Life to \$500.00.

Subscriptions will rise in similar fashion: *Trail & Landscape* to libraries and institutions to \$20.00, and *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* to individuals to \$20.00 and to libraries and institutions to \$35.00.

Nobody likes a fee increase, but the Council considers it necessary at this time. We still feel that we provide a very "good deal" for our fees. ▢

Have You Considered a Life Membership?

Dan Brunton
Vice-President

Frank Pope
Chairman, Finance Committee

A relatively small number of individuals in the Club have taken advantage of the life membership provision. That's a shame because life memberships benefit the Club and benefit the life member.

The Club benefits by receiving a significant amount of capital at one time. To illustrate the point, consider a life membership payment, currently \$500.* In 10 years time, even with an annual deduction of the equivalent of the yearly membership fee, this can generate about \$630 for the Club. That estimate assumes, by the way, a regular increase in the cost of annual membership. When one also considers that the administration requirements of life memberships are less than for annuals, it is easy to see the benefit for the Club. But what of the individual?

Amounts contributed to a charity in excess of the membership dues are deductible for tax purposes. It is understood that the difference between the life membership payment and the annual membership fee (\$480.) is so deductible. That brings the real cost down significantly for members able to use this deduction. In this event, the life membership can pay for itself within 12 years. In addition, allowances have been made in the Club to permit the family of a life member to retain the full privileges of annually-renewing family memberships by making a \$5.00 annual payment.

Acquiring a life membership is a good way to help The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club while giving yourself a financial break at the same time. For those of us who receive a seemingly endless number of renewal notices each year, another benefit comes to mind: here is one membership that you can be sure you paid already! That's one less hassle in an increasingly complicated world. It's certainly worth giving some thought to at membership renewal time.

** This amount will take effect on January 1, 1988; until then the life membership fee remains at \$400. □*

NEW BIRD STATUS LINE NUMBER: 596-4888

Club Publications and Other Items For Sale

This is a reminder that the Club has a number of items for sale to members. These items are listed below, and include a new owl decal suitable for car windows, etc.

<i>Autobiography of John Macoun</i> , hard cover	\$12.50*
<i>Transactions of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club</i> and <i>The Ottawa Naturalist</i> - Index	\$25.00*
<i>Songs of the Seasons</i> (Centennial Bird Record)	\$8.50#
Same on tape	\$11.00#
<i>A Birder's Checklist of Ottawa</i>	\$0.75
<i>Ottawa District Bird Field List</i> (tick sheet)	3 for \$0.50
Owl Hasty Notes	\$3.00#
Club Pin (specify brooch or clutch)	\$3.00#
Shoulder Patch	\$0.75
Owl Decal	\$0.75
<i>A Guide to the Geology of the Ottawa District</i>	\$1.50
<i>A Guide to the Geology of the Gatineau - Lièvre District</i>	\$1.50
<i>Butterflies of the Ottawa District</i> (Trail & Landscape 16(1))	\$3.00
<i>Trail & Landscape Cumulative Index Volumes 1 - 20</i>	\$8.00*
Back issues of both <i>Trail & Landscape</i> and <i>The Canadian Field-Naturalist</i> are available; quotations will be supplied on request.	

* Please add \$2.00 for postage and handling.

Ontario residents add 7% sales tax.

Please note that there is a 50¢ handling charge on items under \$5.00.

The above items are often available at monthly meetings; make your purchases there to avoid the extra charges for postage and handling.

Orders may also be placed by mail. Send your requests along with a cheque or money order (payable to The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club) to The Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club, Box 3264, Postal Station C, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4J5. □

Federation of Ontario Naturalists

Report

Jeff Harrison

This report is intended to inform the membership about the activities of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists over the past year. As Club representative, I attended three of the four annual Board meetings that were held in September and November, 1986, and in January and March, 1987.

There were many FON activities over the past year that would be of interest to members; I have selected five for discussion in this article.

Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario: The long-awaited Atlas will be published in September 1987 by the University of Waterloo Press for \$53.50. Financial support for publication was mostly supplied by the FON. More than 1,500 naturalists participated in the field work over the period 1981 to 1985, including many Club members. This publication will offer some very useful new information about the distribution and numbers of nesting species in the province. While adding new species to the province's breeding bird list, it provides a really comprehensive understanding of the breeding distribution of each species including range extensions and confirmation of the status of declining, threatened or endangered species. For the serious birder and naturalist, it offers concrete evidence about the level of destruction of the Carolinian forest in southwestern Ontario as evidenced by the oasis known as Rondeau Provincial Park and the significance of the demarcation between the southern deciduous forest and the Canadian Shield. Local birders will doubtless find many hours pleasure from examination of results from the 10-km squares in our district. Numerous spin-offs are anticipated.

For your copy, send a cheque or money order in the amount of \$53.50 to the University of Waterloo, Dana Porter Library, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1.

FON ENVIRONMENTAL WORK: The heart of FON's work is in environmental protection of important species and natural areas in the province. For years the FON has been the leading voice for naturalists in Ontario and has worked in concert with many environmental groups. FON environmental activities are too numerous to mention here. Among the highlights over the past year were the securing of the Bruce National Park, protecting Keswick Marsh from Highway 89, and ending privatization of provincial parks. In addition, the FON has produced a new film on hazardous waste management. In January, the Board approved

the hiring of an assistant to Don Huff, the staff environmentalist, for a six-month term. This action was taken to permit the FON to increase lobbying with the minority Liberal government.

MOVES TO STREAMLINE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Each year the Board gets larger as new naturalists groups join and automatically receive a seat on the Board. There are now about 70 affiliated clubs! In recent years, anyone attending a Board meeting has recognized that the size of the Board is unwieldy (regular attendance is about 40) and expensive to administer. Numerous solutions have been put forward, but no consensus has been reached. The current situation is not ideal since most of the clubs in the Toronto area and in southwestern Ontario regularly send delegates but those farther afield rarely do. Directors-at-Large also tend to represent the same geographic areas. As a result, the power of the Board is dominated by the regular attendees. Some solution involving a majority proportion of regional representatives is inevitable. Travel support may also have to be increased. To my knowledge, the Perth, Arnprior and Deep River clubs have never sent a representative to any of the FON meetings I have attended over the past two years. In this regard, the FON wants our club to act as its liaison with these clubs. This would likely involve information exchange and co-ordination of regional meetings. I think the idea has much merit and would be beneficial to all concerned. Anyone interested in this discrete job should contact me at 230-5968.

SENIORS FOR NATURE PROGRAM: This is a series of slide talks developed by the FON with corporate support and distributed to local clubs for their use in promoting nature to older adult groups. Anyone familiar with George McGee's long-standing interest and enthusiasm for this sort of outreach could see the potential importance to our club of having off-the-shelf slide carousels and text available for club extension activities. Bill Rich, the Seniors for Nature coordinator is willing to come to Ottawa to talk about his interesting program. I would be most appreciative if anyone interested in this program could let me know as soon as possible. We might get Bill to come up in the late fall.

SEASONS MAGAZINE: This magazine is published four times a year and is one of the benefits of FON membership. The current issue has features on the caves of Ontario, the Ontario breeding bird atlas, the battle against acid rain, and Pembroke's swallows. Regular features include Environmental Update, Birding Events, Hikes and Walks, Workshops, Activities for Children, and Book Reviews. The yearly membership fees are \$26.00 for individuals and \$32.00 for families. The address of the Federation of Ontario Naturalists is 355 Lesmill Road, Don Mills, Ontario, M3B 2W8, and the telephone number is (416)-444-8419. ▀

The 1987 Soirée

Debbie Walsh

The sixth Annual Soirée of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club was held on Friday, May 1st, of this year at the Unitarian Church on Cleary Avenue. The setting, overlooking the Ottawa River, was an excellent choice for a naturalists' event.

Recognition must be given to all the members involved in planning such a successful evening, especially the Kitchen Coordinators, who managed to keep the delicious pot-luck dinner so well organized. These hard-working members included Katharine Anderson, Robina Bennett, Eileen Evans, Christine Henri, Barbara Hunt, Edith Ikeda, Aileen Mason, Catherine O'Keefe, Rosalie Reynolds, Peggy Smith and Betty Stern.

The Macoun Field Club displays were enjoyed by everyone as they lined up for dinner. It was obvious that the Junior members had spent a great deal of time putting together these projects. The willingness with which they shared their knowledge was greatly appreciated.

The second part of the evening began after dinner with the introduction of Paul Hamilton, the energetic new leader of the Macoun Field Club. Macoun Club Presidents, Heather Hunt (Senior), Lorin Gaertner (Intermediate), and Roger Gaertner (Junior) each gave an informative presentation on the past year's activities and accomplishments of their respective divisions.

Mary Stewart and Sheila Thomson were given the very difficult task of judging the Macoun Field Club projects. Sheila Thomson presented prizes and awards to Roger Gaertner (Junior) for his project "Les Champignons", Isabelle Lussier (Intermediate) for her display "Volcanoes", and, finally, Ross Renaud (Senior) for his year-long study, "A Pond in Four Seasons".

The official Club awards were then presented by President, Bill Gummer, as described in detail on the following pages.

The members' display of art and photography demonstrated the exceptional talent there is within the Club. The members were given the difficult task of judging the photography contest. First prize, an Elaine Dickson carving of a Tree Swallow, was presented by OFNC Vice-President, Jeff Harrison, to Tony Beck for his incredible "Red-tailed Hawk". Honourable mentions went to Dan Brunton for his bog scene entitled "Dawn Mist at Wawa, Ontario", and Ray Holland for his "Saw-whet Owl".

Finally, Master of Ceremonies, Ross Anderson, must be commended for keeping the entire evening running smoothly. A wonderful time was had by all. See you in 1988!



*The exhibit of members' art and photography at the Soirée.
Photograph by Dan Brunton.*



*Isabelle Lussier (left) with her award-winning display
"Vulcanoes". She was assisted by her brother, Pascal (centre).
Photograph by Ken Taylor. ▢*

1986 Honorary Memberships and OFNC Awards

Daniel F. Brunton
Chairman, Awards Committee

Early in 1987, the Council of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club selected a number of individuals to receive Club awards on the recommendation of the Awards Committee. Nominations were received from a variety of sources including S. Darbyshire, F. Pope, E. Dickson, W.K. Gummer, D.F. Brunton, B. Campbell, R. Taylor, J. Reddoch, S. Hamill, W.J. Cody, the Conservation Committee and the Awards Committee. The Awards Committee was particularly appreciative of the efforts of the individual nominators, and we hope to hear from even more people next year.

The following provides a brief description of the achievements of the award winners. A more complete citation for each was read out at the 1987 Soirée and will appear in a coming issue of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*.

HONORARY MEMBER: Donald E. McAllister

Don McAllister is a widely recognized expert on both freshwater and saltwater Canadian fishes and is the premier authority on North American arctic fishes. He has published over 100 scientific papers on the subject, including reports of new species in Canada and the descriptions of species new to science. His activities extend to the study of post-glacial fossils as well. His strong interest in conservation is reflected both by his active participation on the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada and as a director of the International Marine Alliance. Don McAllister has played a major role in the recent effort to save the vast coral reef off the Phillipines that is being severely damaged by present tropical fish collection techniques. Great strides are being made there. He is also compiling a computer checklist of fishes of the world, the working copy of which contains over 20,000 species.

In addition to these scientific efforts and his academic work at Carleton University and the University of Ottawa, Don McAllister has been an Associate Editor of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* for many years and an OFNC member since 1958. He and his late wife, Nancy, were both involved in Club affairs and with the Macoun Field Club. Their children were prominent in the Macoun Club, accounting for the first seven of the ten *Macoun What's What* reports that appeared in *Trail & Landscape*.

HONORARY MEMBER: Robert W. Nero

Bob Nero is an authority on northern owls and is particularly well known for his outstanding book on the Great Gray Owl. This labour of love was the product of many years of field work and study in southern Manitoba. In that province and in Saskatchewan too, Bob Nero has been a prominent natural scientist and naturalist since coming to Canada in 1955. His efforts on behalf of naturalists and naturalists' organizations in western Canada have been most significant, and he has been honoured by groups such as the Manitoba Natural History Society for this work. In addition to his ornithological and conservation activities, Nero has studied and written extensively on mammals (including coauthoring a book on the Cougar in Manitoba), reptiles and amphibians, and insects. His enthusiastic and expert presentations to thousands of school children all across southern Manitoba continue to broaden the awareness of our need to conserve and protect natural areas and species.

Bob was not able to attend the Soirée to receive his award in person.



Honorary Member: Don McAllister Photograph by Dan Brunton.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR: Roy John

Roy John's actions as Chairman of the Bird Records Subcommittee during "a year of self examination" have proven vital in directing this subcommittee to meet Club goals of promoting appreciation of nature, of encouraging investigation and of publishing information. Among other achievements, the subcommittee developed a concise Terms of Reference which were ultimately approved by the Council. The outcome of all of this has been a success.

SERVICE AWARD: Dorothy Greene, Marc Guertin, Lisa Meyboom, Jim Montgomery and Harry Thomson

It seemed particularly appropriate in 1986 to be honouring the important work achieved on behalf of *Trail & Landscape* by these people as *Trail & Landscape* completes its twentieth volume. While many, many individuals have laboured long and hard to make this a most successful publication, these people were most directly responsible for carrying the less glamorous but critical production side of the publication effort. (We could add Eileen Evans and Joyce Reddoch to this group too, but both of these members previously received awards that, in part, recognized their *Trail & Landscape* production efforts.)

CONSERVATION AWARD: Jane Topping

Jane has been passionately involved in the issue of wetlands conservation since 1978 and has played an important role in the lobby against the environmental inequities of the Ontario Drainage Act. She has spent many long hours researching and documenting wetlands problems in the province and has represented The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club and others in presenting these concerns to the appropriate authorities. She continues her involvement in this and other issues as a member of the Club's Conservation Committee.

ANNE HANES NATURAL HISTORY AWARD: Clarence Frankton

Since his retirement in 1970, Clarrie Frankton has applied his considerable energies and talents to learning more about the natural history of the Ottawa District in general and the floristics of this area in particular. Stony Swamp Conservation Area in Nepean has held a special fascination for him. Clarrie and his wife Enid, his constant field companion and associate, have looked into every nook and cranny of the area and have contributed more than anyone else to bringing the total of its known flora to almost 700 species. That is unprecedented in the Ottawa District. A dozen or so, including one new to the Ottawa District, were found in 1986. His effort and achievement con-



Member of the Year: Roy John
Photographs by Ken Taylor.



Conservation Award: Jane Topping



Service Award: (left to right) Lisa Meyboom, Marc Guertin, Jim Montgomery and Harry Thomson. Dorothy Greene unfortunately was unable to attend. Photograph by Dan Brunton.

tinue to be an inspirational example for field naturalists throughout the District.

PRESIDENT'S PRIZE: Barbara Martin

Bill Gummer presented the second of the modern President's Prizes to Barbara Martin for her deep involvement in bringing the Club to computer self-sufficiency. The equipment arrived about a year ago, but plans for its location fell through. Barbara offered it residence in her home, ensuring that Councilors and others could examine it, and arranged for operating supplies and service contracts. In short order the requirements for membership records and mailing labels were met, and a program laid down for subject and schedule for the next year.

The prize was presented with emphasis on Barbara's strong and effective efforts to introduce us properly to our new computer, for housing it and making it available to others, for ensuring its proper use, and for enabling the Club to make this major change in conduct with so little difficulty.



*Anne Hanes Natural History Award:
Clarence Frankton*



*President's Prize:
Barbara Martin*

Photographs by Ken Taylor. ▢

Macoun What's What

Amber Stewart

The Macoun Field Club spent the month of February renovating the library, which included repairing, cataloguing and shelving books. Also in February, Carina Cojeen, a senior member of the Macoun Field Club, gave a seminar on the destruction of tropical rainforests.

March and April brought the themes of arctic and marine environments to our meetings. Dr. Hugh French gave a very interesting talk on the physical environment of the Canadian Arctic, followed by Dr. Jim Ginns' presentation of "The Flowering Plants and Fungi of the Yukon". Dr. Tony Gaston of the Canadian Wildlife Service introduced us to his fascinating research on arctic sea birds, and Dr. Brian Rust explained the formation of the ancient rivers and mountains of the maritimes. To complete the presentations in April, Mr. Smith, a science teacher at Gloucester High School, spoke about his study of plant succession along the Dolman Ridge.

During the month of May, seminars featured such topics as life in the tropics and the arctic. Dr. Alan Emery, Director of the National Museum of Natural Sciences, gave an interesting talk and very colourful slide show of his trip to the Chagos Archipelagos in the Indian Ocean and his research into coral reefs and tropical fishes. Another senior Macouner, Heather Hunt, presented a seminar on certain aspects of Marine Biology. Also during May, Heidi Klein, from the Guelph Rehabilitation Centre for Birds, brought in an injured American Kestrel and Screech Owl for her discussion on raptors. Everybody had a chance to handle these birds.

Notable field trips included overnight camping trips to Mary Stewart's farm near Pakenham and Martha Camfield's cottage in the Gatineau. There was also a spring fiddlehead hike led by Kathleen Pryer. In addition, members participated in many outings to the Macoun Study Area in the Greenbelt near Bells Corners.

The closing meeting and party was held on June 20th, at which time *The Little Bear* was distributed to the members. This is the Macoun Field Club's annual publication, featuring various natural history articles written by Macouners themselves. This year the publication was 86 pages in length. ▢

The Three "Pink" Peatland Orchids^{*}

Joyce M. Reddoch and Allan H. Reddoch

Three of the prettiest and least familiar of our orchids can be found in Ottawa District peatlands. They are *Arethusa*, Grass-pink and Rose Pogonia. With some luck, you might even see all three species blooming together in late June.

Although they are not closely related, the flowers of the three species have much in common. All three have purple to pink flowers with yellow-fringed lips. The fringes serve to attract nectar-seeking insects, but they are really false advertising because these orchids have no nectar.

In spite of their similarities, it is fairly easy to identify each species, but they can be confusing when encountered for the first time. The field guides show the differences, but the essential features are easy to describe. *Arethusa* (Figure 1) has a single purple flower which is quite erect in appearance with a sepal and two petals pointing straight up. The stem has two or three sheaths along its length, but the single grass-like leaf does not expand until the flower is passing. By contrast, Grass-pink (Figure 2) has several purple flowers, and, unlike most orchids, the flowers are presented with the lips uppermost. The plant has a long, narrow leaf arising from the base of the stem. Rose Pogonia (Figure 3) has a single, purplish-pink flower which appears to point forward like an old-fashioned bonnet. The single leaf is elliptical rather than grass-like and on flowering plants is halfway up the stem. In addition, there is a floral bract which resembles the leaf but is a little smaller.

Some other features of these orchids as they occur in the Ottawa District are given in Table 1, based on herbarium collections and our field observations.

Table 1

	<u>Arethusa</u>	<u>Grass-pink</u>	<u>Rose Pogonia</u>
Number of flowers	1 (rarely 2)	1 - 10 (typically 2 - 5)	1 (sometimes 2)
Plant height (average)	8 - 38 cm (18 cm)	21 - 64 cm (39 cm)	10 - 40 cm (25 cm)
Blooming Date (average)	Jun 3 - Jul 2 (Jun 18)	Jun 15 - Aug 6 (Jul 7)	Jun 8 - Aug 14 (Jul 6)

^{*} Part IV in a series on Ottawa District orchids.



Figure 1. *Arethusa* in the fen near Poltimore, June 25, 1976.



Figure 2. Grass-pink on the Dolman Ridge, Mer Bleue, June 28, 1971.



Figure 3. Rose Pogonia in an abandoned sand pit on the Borthwick Ridge, Mer Bleue, June 25, 1980. Photographs by the authors.

Arethusa (Arethusa bulbosa)

Arethusa is the least common of these three orchids and is best described as rare and local in the Ottawa District. As far as we know, there are only three extant colonies. There is, in addition, a colony just beyond the District boundaries at White Lake Fen (Reddoch 1984) and another, farther away in eastern Ontario, at Alfred Bog (Cuddy 1983).

Arethusa is confined to fens and the minerotrophic parts of bogs (poor fens). These sites are acidic to slightly acidic (pH 4.5 - 6.5). Here the plants grow in the sun among sedges and mosses on the fen floor or on hummocks among some of the minerotrophic *Sphagna* (*Sphagnum warnstorffii*, *S. teres*, *S. magellanicum*.)

We have followed a colony in a fen near Poltimore, Quebec, (Reddoch 1979) for 20 years. In the early years, the plants were scattered over the open fen floor, but when the fen became wetter, these plants disappeared and new plants appeared on hummocks at the bases of the Tamarack, Black Spruce and White Cedar dotting the fen. The new plants must have come from seeds produced by the plants on the fen floor. More recently, we discovered by marking flowering plants and looking for them again in early fall that only a few go to seed. But every orchid capsule contains thousands of seeds, and so maybe only a few seed capsules are necessary to ensure the continuity of a colony. We are more concerned that the recent logging of the surrounding swamp (Reddoch and Reddoch 1987) will cause changes that threaten the colony's survival.

Arethusa has been well-documented from the Mer Bleue Bog, where it was discovered for the first time in the Ottawa District in 1883 (Macoun *et al.* 1884, Fletcher 1884). Its occurrence and considerable abundance near the mineral springs at Carlsbad Springs were reported on during the next three decades (Whyte *et al.* 1894, Fletcher 1896, Whyte *et al.* 1897 and Gibson 1908). At least 16 collections were made and distributed to various Ontario and Quebec herbaria. The only recent observation of *Arethusa* that we are aware of is that of Shirley Black (personal communication 1980), who noticed a few plants in the bog off the Borthwick Ridge in the early 1970s. It is not known whether this colony still survives.

A colony may be in flower for a month, but individual plants do not stay in flower for that long, and as Ed Greenwood has noted at the fen near Poltimore (personal communication 1987), "I found 50 in flower there on each of 4 successive weekly visits - but a different 50 each time".

In addition to the blooming dates for *Arethusa* summarized in Table 1, James Fletcher (1896) notes that "a few specimens of this lovely Orchid were found in full flower by Mr. W.T. Macoun



Figure 4. *Rose Pogonia* at Black Lake bog, Gatineau Park.

On July 8, 1878, James Fletcher collected *Rose Pogonia* from Black Lake. (The collection is in the Agriculture Canada herbarium.) In the photograph, Allan Reddoch is shown examining plants of *Rose Pogonia* at the same location a hundred years later.

The maximum number of flowering plants we have observed during the last 20 years is 80 in 1969. In 1983, beavers dammed the outlet stream of the lake, causing the water level to rise about a half metre. Now, only the floating outer edge of the bog remains, and the alders at the right of the picture have died and fallen down. This year (1987) we managed to spot one *Rose Pogonia* flower from the shore with binoculars.

on May the 28th. This is rather earlier than usual for the flowers to be found."

**Grass-pink (*Calopogon tuberosus*)
and Rose Pogonia (*Pogonia ophioglossoides*)**

These two species have very similar habitat requirements and often grow together. In fact, Braddish Billings Jr. made the first collections for the Ottawa District of both species in the same place, Dow's Swamp, on the same day, July 9, 1860 (collections at the Fowler Herbarium, Queen's University; Reddoch 1978). Although more widespread in the District than *Arethusa*, both Grass-pink and *Pogonia* also prefer open fens and the more minerotrophic parts of bogs. However, they have been found in some other habitats as well.

Plants of Grass-pink and Rose Pogonia have grown for some years in the moist, acidic sands (pH 4.5) of the Mer Bleue ridges in borrow pits left after highway construction in the 1960s (Figure 3; Dunston 1970). 1973 was a particularly good year with 50 flowering plants of Grass-pink and 11 of Rose Pogonia on the Dolman Ridge, and 40 flowering plants of Rose Pogonia on the Borthwick Ridge. The Borthwick Ridge colony built up to over a hundred flowering plants by 1977 but since 1980 has dwindled to only a few plants with increased shading. The flowers in this colony are often heavily infested with rose chafers. Plant numbers on the ridges vary considerably from year to year depending on the water table. These disturbed sands were likely first seeded from plants in the adjacent bog and the populations replenished from the same source over the years. However, the shade caused by the continued growth of trees and shrubs makes it unlikely that the orchids will continue there for long.

Rose Pogonia sometimes forms colonies on floating sedge mats along undisturbed lake edges, particularly on the Precambrian Shield (see, for example, Figure 4). A related habitat was a couple of fallen cedar trees floating at a shrubby edge of Lac Bonin in Quebec. There, Ed Dodson showed us several plants of Rose Pogonia along with a number of other species, including Pitcher Plant, Round-leaved Sundew and the orchid, *Loesel's Twayblade*.

A more surprising, but also related, habitat for Rose Pogonia is the boom logs on the Gatineau River. Boom logs are enormous squared timbers chained together to hold or channel cut logs on their way to the mills downstream. When they become weathered and waterlogged, boom logs support a variety of plants (Bayly 1972) including Rose Pogonia (Bayly personal communication 1977). A normal-sized flowering plant of Rose Pogonia was collected from a boom log at Ramsey's Crossing by Martha Camfield in 1959 (collection at Carleton University herbarium).

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to those people cited in the text and the many others who have shared their finds with us. We thank Dr. R.R. Ireland of the National Museum of Natural Sciences for identifying the Sphagna.

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□

Recent Bird Sightings



Christine Hanrahan & Michelle Elder

March - May 1987 Period

This is a period into which much activity is condensed. While some overwintering birds are leaving our area, many, many more are arriving. Robins and Red-winged Blackbirds are seen from early March on. By month's end, thousands upon thousands of waterfowl descend on the area. Throughout April and May, more migrant species arrive almost daily. And, no matter how common a species is, the first sighting is always a joy. Then, of course, there is the anticipation of the rare and the unusual during this period.

The spring of 1987 produced few real rarities: a Little Blue Heron, a possible Cinammon Teal, a Eurasian Wigeon, a Willet, and a Worm-eating Warbler were the highlights. Only two of these species were seen by more than a few people. But other interesting occurrences were the large numbers of some species: 1700 Snow Geese, over 80 Bonaparte's Gulls in a single flock, five Little Gulls sighted at one time, and higher than average numbers of shorebirds. Ottawa River water levels were extremely low, so low that by April 26th the spit was already forming at Ottawa Beach. At Britannia Point, the water was about a metre lower than normal. This is much more like August levels than spring, when water is normally quite high. Because of the reduced water levels along the river and in the sewage lagoons, an abundance of shore bird habitat was exposed. Large numbers of shorebirds took advantage of these conditions and some exceptionally large flocks were seen.

Few records were broken with regard to early arrivals and late departures: a Pectoral Sandpiper and five Double-crested Cormorants were the earliest on record.

The weather this spring was, like that of the spring of 1986, uneven. There were some very mild and warm days in March, with a high of +16°C on the 24th. March also broke the record for hours of sunshine with 219 hours recorded. Early April saw snow flurries and cool, wet conditions, but Easter was exceptionally hot with temperatures in the mid to high 20's. May had some warm days, but also some very cold weather, with strong winds for much of the month, and heavy rain at times. Overall, there were enough warm days to push many migrants right through our area, and few good grounding days were noted.

Many observers commented on the lack of landbirds. Certainly, the good weather prompted many birds to continue through without stopping, but even when they did touch down, there were fewer than seemed normal. Some birders have said that they believe there are fewer birds now than 10 or 20 years ago. It seems that for the last three or four springs we've been saying "it's just a bad spring" to explain the smaller number of birds. But how long can we keep on saying this?

The wet, cold weather during the breeding season last year killed off a lot of nestlings, not only here but also in a large part of the northeast. Combine a few bad breeding years like that with other factors, most significantly destruction of winter habitat in the tropics where many of our birds go, and loss of good habitat on breeding grounds, and you have all the ingredients for disaster. Of course, one or two bad breeding years will not alone have a significant effect on many species; rather, it is the long-term trend of habitat destruction that is of vital importance. In conjunction with other hazards, the impact can be enormous. Studies are already underway to determine whether or not there is a continuing decline in many previously common species, especially those wintering in tropical rain forests.

Loons and Grebes: Common Loons started arriving in the second week of April. Both Red-necked and Horned Grebes were reported soon after, with high counts of both on April 23rd - with 226 Red-necked and 76 Horned. Pied-billed Grebes had returned by early April.

Cormorants: Double-crested Cormorants were first seen very early with five on March 26th. On May 24th, 26 cormorants were seen along the Ottawa River, most between Britannia Point and Bate Island; the majority were non-breeding birds. They seem to be roosting near Kitchissippi Lookout. The numbers of these birds have increased steadily in the past 10 years. There is certainly a good possibility that this species will be breeding here in the very near future.

Bitterns and Herons: The highlight heron of the period was definitely the adult Little Blue Heron seen flying behind the airport on May 21st. This species occasionally turns up in our area, and April to May is a good time to be on the lookout for one. Great Blue Herons were back by late March, and Green-backed Herons were reported by early May. So far as is known, no Black-crowned Night Herons have been seen. A very early American Bittern was found on April 10th at Ramsayville Marsh, and others were located on the 11th, 12th and 17th, showing quite an early movement. American Bittern numbers have been fairly high this spring, but, so far, no Least Bitterns have been reported. A Great Egret was sighted on May 22nd flying over the Marlborough Forest east of Dwyer Hill Road.

Waterfowl: Ottawa has some excellent waterfowl viewing areas where large concentrations of geese and ducks gather during spring migration. The stretch of Ottawa River on the Quebec side, from Masson to Plaisance including Black Bay near Thurso, offers good opportunities to watch waterfowl. In Ontario, the east end of our area along the South Nation River is best, in places such as Bear Brook, Bourget, Pendleton, Riceville and Cobb Lake Creek. Throughout late March, waterfowl arrived in numbers, giving winter-weary birders much to look at. The fields around Bear Brook and Bourget to Riceville were extensively flooded this spring, as were areas not normally prone to being underwater. Fields near the Winchester Bog, for example, were host to thousands of Canada Geese on March 24th.

Canada Goose numbers increased daily, from a mere 5,000 at Bear Brook and another 20,000 at Riceville on March 27th, to an estimated 125,000 at Pendleton on April 4th. Huge skeins of geese streamed into the above areas for days, but by April 6th many had departed north and numbers decreased considerably, although large flocks remained until May. Few Canada Geese stay here to breed - yet! The small ponds at Bell-Northern Research at Carling Avenue and Moodie Drive have attracted several pairs over the past few years. This year, three pairs successfully bred there, with young noted on May 8th.

A few Snow Geese can be expected most years, and sometimes very large flocks are found, as with the 581 east of Pendleton in April 1985. This year, however, saw an exceptional number, with a high of 1700 (including 18 blue phase) around Cobb Lake Creek on April 6th. Numbers built up from a mere two on March



Snow Geese and Canada Geese in the flooded fields near Cobb Lake Creek on April 6th, 1987. Photograph by Bruce M. Di Labio.

27th, to 350 the next day (when an estimated 10,000 were seen near Montreal), 1500 on April 3rd, and 1700 on the 6th. Numbers fell sharply after that peak, although a lone Snow Goose was at the Alfred sewage lagoon until at least May 23rd.

No Tundra Swans were reported for the period, and only two Greater White-fronted Geese, one near Riceville on April 2nd and the other near the Masson Ferry on April 17th. On May 9th, three flocks of Brant totalling about 1200 birds were observed flying along the Ottawa River. This is early for such a large movement. A single bird was at Stillwater Park on May 15th, and a flock of 120 was noted from the same place on May 22nd.

Northern Pintail came in by the thousands during early April, with at least 12,000 in the Pendleton area on April 4th. Small numbers of this species remain in the area during the summer. Two hundred Ring-necked Ducks were around Pendleton on April 4th, and 15 Greater Scaups were at Riceville on March 27th along with large numbers of the more commonly observed waterfowl.

Away from the flooded fields, 18 White-winged Scoters were found at Shirleys Bay on May 20th, a late Canvasback on May 16th, and between 100 and 140 Oldsquaws along the Ottawa River on May 17th. Barrow's Goldeneyes were around until the late date of April 28th when two females were observed near the Champlain Bridge. Earlier, on April 6th, three adult females and one immature male were seen at Shirleys Bay. Ruddy Ducks were first noted on April 16th at Shirleys Bay when two were seen. The usual east end sewage lagoons had a few Ruddy Ducks, with a high so far of four at Alfred.

The only rarity among the waterfowl was a Eurasian Wigeon at Shirleys Bay on April 19th. The last time this species turned up, in 1985, it was on April 21st. Of the few records for Eurasian Wigeon in Ottawa, four have occurred around this same time period. An interesting find was a possible Cinammon Teal at Grande Plaisance, Quebec, on April 17th. However, no firm decision has yet been reached as to the correct identification of this bird. There is a distinct possibility that it may have been a Blue-winged Teal - Northern Shoveler hybrid. Two Ruddy Shelducks were at Bear Brook on March 28th. These escapees are becoming almost regular of late.

Raptors: Turkey Vultures were early this year with reports of several birds on March 21st. Two male Northern Harriers observed on March 7th, one at Ottawa Airport and one near Kemptville, were either early migrants or overwintering birds. An immature Northern Goshawk was near the airport on March 15th, and this species was observed sporadically throughout the period. Three Red-shouldered Hawks were noted on March 25th in the Bear Brook - Cobb Lake Creek area, while another was found on March 29th near a known nesting site along the Dunrobin Ridge. Rough-legged Hawks were observed in increasing numbers during late March - early April as they moved northwards through our area. On April 2nd, 26 Rough-legged Hawks were found, and 20 on April 7th.

Several Merlins were reported, including one on May 1st near Carp and one on May 12th near Almonte. Peregrine Falcons were noted at least four times; one bird on March 20th was in the Hampton Park area, another on April 6th and again on the 16th was at Tunney's Pasture, while the fourth sighting, on May 20th, was in the Civic Hospital area. These four areas are all very close together, and it might well be that only one bird was actually involved.

A white-phase Gyrfalcon was apparently seen in Hull in early March. Hawk movements were good on certain days, such as May 1st, for example, when large numbers of Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawks pushed through our region. A few unconfirmed reports of both Golden and Bald Eagles were noted.

Gallinaceous Birds: Gray Partridge began to be seen more frequently as March drew to a close. About average numbers of these birds were reported through the period. The odd Ring-necked Pheasant was sighted or heard, and Ruffed Grouse could be heard drumming early on, one of the sure signs of spring.

Perhaps one of the more stupid and bizarre incidents of late was the release of Wild Turkeys into Britannia Woods. Not only is this particular area unsuitable and our winter climate too severe, but also this species was never native to this area in the first place. The same turkeys who released these turkeys also released Ring-necked Pheasants in the Britannia area last year! One can only wonder at the rationale behind acts of such stupidity. Next time these people get an urge to release a non-native bird, let's hope they first consult with those who can offer sound advice.

Rails to Coot: Two Yellow Rails were heard, where else but the Richmond Fen, on May 26th. Sora and Virginia Rails returned about on time. Common Moorhens were found in various places including Ramsayville Marsh (four on May 8th) and several sewage lagoons. American Coots occur in small numbers around Ottawa; over the last few years the Alfred sewage lagoon appears to be one reliable place to see this species, spring and summer.

Shorebirds: Spring migration is not usually the time to see the large numbers of shorebirds normally found in the fall. Very low water levels this spring, however, provided much excellent habitat, and shorebirds took advantage of this unusual occurrence. For the first time in spring since 1971, mudflats appeared at Shirleys Bay. Ottawa Beach had an exposed sandbar, unusual for the spring. The last time this happened was the spring of 1982. Many sewage lagoons were also very low, with one of the Almonte ponds almost dry by late May.

The highlight of the spring shorebirds was a Willet at Shirleys Bay. It was first seen on May 16th but obligingly stayed around until the 18th, allowing most birders a good look. This is the seventh record for the District; the last Willet turned up in 1979. It is interesting to note that five of the previous six records were in the spring.

While some shorebirds came in fairly early, only one record was set. A Pectoral Sandpiper was found on March 25th, the earliest by at least three days. Other early arriving species included a Killdeer at Britannia on March 8th, two American Woodcock at Clyde Woods on March 22nd, and a Red-necked Phalarope at Deschênes on May 19th.

Some shorebirds are more readily found in the fall, with spring occurrences uncommon. Two Baird's Sandpipers were reported on May 31st. If this report is verified, they would be a first spring record. Three Stilt Sandpipers were found on May 18th, and several Red Knots turned up, two on May 18th and one on May 31st, both at Ottawa Beach. A few Black-bellied Plovers were noted, and several Whimbrels were apparently seen flying along the Ottawa River. Late May is always "Whimbrel time", and birders scan the river hoping to see some of these large shorebirds fly by. Sometimes we get lucky and they land, offering a good opportunity to get a better look.

Nine Ruddy Turnstones at Deschênes on May 31st were a respectable number for this species in spring. Forty-five Sanderlings stopped over on the sandbar at Ottawa Beach on May 31st. Again, this species is more often noted in fall migration. Large numbers of Least Sandpipers were found, including one flock of 292 on May 16th and 410 on May 24th. While certainly not the largest flocks to be recorded by any means, the overall total for this species was good. About 500 or more Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Ottawa Beach the evening of May 31st, the largest flock recorded this spring. A few White-rumped Sandpipers were found, and a good number of Short-billed Dowitchers, including 18 at Shirleys Bay on May 17th and nine at the same place on May 23rd.

Wilson's Phalaropes were much in evidence this spring. During May a check of several east end lagoons could produce more than 50 of these birds. Thirty-one were found at St.-Isidore-de-Prescott sewage lagoon on May 18th, and a further 14 at Alfred on the same day. Most of the sewage lagoons had at least one or two of this beautiful little shorebird. Quite a few could also be seen along the Jock River near Twin Elms. Prior to 1975 this species was rare in the area, but numbers have increased steadily since then, thanks almost exclusively to the habitat provided by sewage lagoons.

Gulls and Terns: This period was very productive for gulls and terns. The beginning of March saw the return of Ring-billed Gulls. Herring Gulls were present throughout the period. Great Black-backed Gull numbers were fairly high, with 14 on April 16th and 22 on April 28th. They could still be seen through May, singly and mostly immature, but there was an adult seen on May 26th at Shirleys Bay. On April 16th, one Iceland and two Glaucous Gulls were found. Both species were also seen quite late in the spring; an adult Glaucous was seen on May 20th, and an immature Iceland Gull on May 26th. Only one Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen during the period, an adult at the Nepean Dump on May 1st. This is only the fifth or sixth record for the

spring; they are more likely to turn up in the fall.

This was an excellent spring for Little Gulls. The first was a second summer bird seen on April 27th, a very early record. It was found along with 14 Bonaparte's Gulls. On May 16th, one was seen at Britannia Point. On May 17th, there were two birds at Shirleys Bay and another two at Thurso, most likely different birds. The Ottawa record for the most Little Gulls in one sighting was broken on May 19th when five were observed together at Britannia Point. This group of five was made up of one adult, three second summer birds and one first summer bird. The numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls were also exceptionally high this spring, with flocks of up to 85 on May 16th, probably the highest number recorded in one flock in the District.

To bring the total number of species of gulls for the period to nine, an adult Franklin's Gull was found on May 18th. It was still around three days later at the Carp Dump, and found again on May 29th at Britannia Point.

Terns also fared well during this period. Three Arctic Terns were seen on May 21st. Common Terns and Black Terns were in by mid-May, with up to eight Common Terns found along the Ottawa River at one time. A Caspian Tern was seen at Shirleys Bay on May 24th but apparently was not seen again. Last year, 1986, three Caspians were around for a short time, and one at least could be seen on and off for part of the summer.

Doves: Rock Doves were found in their usual abundance during the period. It appears that Ottawa City Council would like to do something about this abundance, namely reduce it. Anyone with a scheme to lower the local pigeon population should apply to City Hall. Fortunately, Mourning Doves do not appear to be similarly threatened.

Cuckoos: Black-billed Cuckoos usually begin trickling into our area by the end of the third week in May; therefore, the two birds observed on May 17th were relatively early, although not the earliest on record. Apparently no Yellow-billed Cuckoos were found.

Owls: On a sad note, the Hawk Owl that was present at the corner of Pink and Perry Roads from early January was found injured in March and later died. The cause of death was not reported, but it may have been shot. Great-horned, Barred, Long-eared and Saw-whet Owls could be found if looked and/or listened for in the woodlots in and around the city. Screech Owls were present in their traditional spots: Billings Bridge, the Arboretum and around the Nepean Dump. Three Short-eared Owls were found in the Cobb Lake Creek area on March 25th. Two nests of this species have been discovered in the Arnprior area. One Snowy Owl was found very late, on May 3rd, near Casselman.

Goatsuckers: Common Nighthawks are another late arriving species, usually noted in our area by late May, with the major influx occurring in early June. The loud "peent" of this night-

hawk seems to become a part of summer nights, but during migration they can be seen and heard throughout the day. This species arrived about the third week of May this year.

Whip-poor-wills are rarely seen, being more often heard. Because they are crepuscular and nocturnal, however, they may not always be encountered. It has been suggested that Whip-poor-will numbers are down, and recently some Ottawa area birders have concurred with this. In 1986 it was again on the Blue List, the National Audubon Society's "early warning system" for birds. Reports this year have been few, but perhaps more a reflection of lack of night birding?

Swifts to Kingfishers: By the first of May, Chimney Swifts were back, about on schedule for this area. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds began filtering in in mid-May, and their numbers increased considerably by month's end. An early Belted Kingfisher was observed on March 30th.

Woodpeckers: Only one report of Red-headed Woodpecker was received, a bird in Quebec on the Spring Roundup on May 17th. Perhaps June will have more news of this species. Last year was poor for this species, with known locations remaining unoccupied; however, one pair was present in the Gatineau. Loss of nesting habitat in many areas of its range has meant a decrease in the number of Red-headed Woodpeckers of late. Competition with other cavity nesters is also a factor. In at least one Ottawa area location, European Starlings are occupying almost every hole in a stand of dead elms where once Red-headed Woodpeckers nested. Two Black-backed Woodpeckers were reported, one on the Jack Pine Trail on March 15th, and the second along the Dunrobin Ridge on April 26th. An unusually high number of Northern Flickers was recorded on March 30th when 16 were found.

Flycatchers: As usual, Eastern Phoebe was the first flycatcher to move into the area, in late March. There appear to be very good numbers of phoebes around this year, with up to 50 counted on one day in early spring. Other flycatchers did eventually arrive, a day or so later than usual, rather as though the last wave of migration was slightly held up.

Horned Lark: This species is one of the earliest spring migrants, usually arriving around mid-February. By March it is present in good numbers, and on March 15th many large flocks were observed in the area. Horned Larks are early nesters, and by April are already on territory. However, one pair seemingly couldn't wait and laid their eggs alongside a gravel road before the end of March.

Swallows: By the end of April, all of the six swallow species had returned. The warm, sunny days in late March probably induced Purple Martins to return somewhat earlier than usual. One bird was found on March 30th and several others a few days later, just ahead of the cold, wet weather that also returned.

Tree Swallows were first noted on March 25th and one Barn Swallow on April 11th. Cliff Swallows on April 21st were somewhat early, the majority arriving during early May.

Corvidae: Blue Jays, American Crows and Common Ravens were to be found in the appropriate habitats throughout the period.

Chickadees, Nuthatches, Creepers: A Boreal Chickadee at the Arboretum on April 9th was a good sighting for the date and location. Red-breasted Nuthatches were in good numbers, seemingly more abundant than their White-breasted relative this spring. Brown Creepers are difficult to find, not because they are scarce but because they are too often overlooked. In spring, however, their surprisingly loud, warbler-like song usually gives them away. That few were reported probably means little more than that they went unnoticed by observers.

Wrens: Fifteen Sedge Wrens were present in the Richmond Fen on May 26th. The fen is usually a reliable area for finding this uncommon species. No other reports of Sedge Wren were received, and several known locations outside the Ottawa District were devoid of these birds. Marsh Wrens and Winter Wrens were found singing in appropriate habitats, as were House Wrens.

Kinglets and Gnatcatchers: Only one report of Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was recorded for Ottawa this spring. A single bird was seen in Britannia Woods on May 16th. The nest site on Huntley Town Line last year failed to produce any young, probably due to the wet summer. With no young to return this year, it is not surprising that gnatcatchers have not shown up at the site. However, gnatcatchers have returned to the established site at Lac Leamy. Golden-crowned Kinglets were around in usual numbers throughout the period. Ruby-crowned Kinglets returned by mid-April.

Thrushes: American Robins are, for many people, the true harbingers of spring, bringing promise of warmer days ahead. Although some robins will overwinter, migrants begin arriving back in mid-March. A bird found on March 10th was probably a migrant, and by mid-month robins were definitely back! Eastern Bluebirds were observed in late March with up to 10 recorded on March 29th. Bluebirds were present at the usual sites (Dunrobin Ridge, the Second Line of March etc.) as well as at a relatively new location, behind the Ottawa Airport. At least three birds were found there this spring, and nesting boxes have been placed near Bowesville Road in an attempt to induce them to stay and breed in the area. A few years ago, only one bird was reported from this site, followed by an absence of several years. The other regularly occurring thrushes were recorded more or less on time, with Veery noted in very good numbers after May 23rd.

Mimidae: Brown Thrashers and Gray Catbirds returned on time, with the first thrasher on April 19th and catbirds appearing by

early May.

A Mockingbird was singing in the Alta Vista area for three weeks in April but has not been reported since. A pair was seen a couple of times in the Almonte area in early May. Further searching later in the month failed to turn them up.

Pipits: Late April through May is usually the time to see Water Pipits migrating northward. Although some Spring Roundup participants had good numbers of pipits on May 17th, fewer were recorded overall this spring.

Waxwings: Bohemian Waxwings were reported as late as the first week of April, with flocks of 60 on April 1st and 16 on April 5th. Cedar Waxwings were not as much in evidence as in other springs, but greater numbers should arrive by June.

Shrikes: The winter of 1986-87 produced good numbers of Northern Shrikes, and this species continued to be observed into April, with two birds on April 7th. Most Northern Shrikes leave the area by mid-April, although sightings have occurred into May in the past. Care should be taken to avoid confusing Northern Shrikes with Loggerheads, which begin migrating into our area in late March.

The first Loggerhead Shrike in the District was noted on March 26th, a migrant. See the article following this one for a report on the Ottawa area results of the Loggerhead Shrike Survey undertaken this summer across Ontario.

Starlings: European Starlings could be seen any day someone cared to look.

Vireos: On May 15th, five species of vireos were found in Britannia Woods. Our two most common, Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos, were found with ease by mid-month.

Warblers: In the opinion of many birders, this spring was again a poor one for warblers. Only two really good days occurred when many warblers could be found in decent numbers. But even a "good" day this year meant finding only 18 species. What happened to the days when "good" signified up to 25 species? Not only were high species counts possible, but one also expected sheer numbers for many of the commoner species. The last few springs (and fall periods too) have been anything but exciting for warbler movements. Warm, even hot weather, led many birds to fly straight through without stopping; those we eventually did find were, often as not, already on breeding territory.

Nonetheless, small numbers of migrants did stop over, and on May 10th and 15th there was even a "fallout" of sorts. On May 10th, there were 18 species of warblers in Britannia Woods, including Northern Parula, Tennessee, Magnolia and Blackpoll Warblers, as well as an early Wilson's Warbler. A few days later, on the 15th, in the same place, Ottawa's third ever Worm-eating Warbler turned up. Unfortunately, only two people were

able to see this bird. The two previous sightings occurred on May 11, 1980, at Clyde Woods and May 18, 1975, at Beechwood Cemetery. At the same time as the Worm-eating, four Golden-winged Warblers were found, probably the highest total at one time for this species in spring migration. A Cerulean Warbler completed the list of exceptional warblers for May 15th at Britannia.

On May 12th, one Golden-winged Warbler was on the usual breeding territory off Thomas Dolan Parkway, and four days later three birds were heard there. A singing Cerulean Warbler was located along the Low - Poltimore Road in Quebec on May 17th and was still there on May 22nd. Four years ago, one spent over a week in a small woodlot on Thomas Dolan Parkway in June of 1983. What was probably the year's first Yellow-rumped Warbler was found on April 17th in Vincent Massey Park. Three other Yellow-rumpeds were at Shirleys Bay on April 21st. After this date, they could be seen in reasonable numbers, although seemingly not as abundant as in past springs. Ovenbirds seemed to be slightly late and in smaller numbers. However, Yellow Warblers, Black and White Warblers and Common Yellowthroats were demonstrably the most common warblers this spring in the District.

Tanager to Indigo Bunting: Scarlet Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks returned on schedule. Indigo Buntings arrived slightly ahead of their normal return date.

The Northern Cardinal population of Ottawa continues to grow. Rockcliffe and Ottawa's west end, in particular, have strong populations. Both these areas are well established and well treed. The growth of the cardinal population, while not as spectacular as that of the House Finch, has been steady.

Sparrows: By late April, the large flocks of Tree Sparrows had all but disappeared, to be replaced by White-crowned Sparrows, also northward bound. Dark-eyed Juncos became more noticeable in April and early May as the wintering birds were joined by larger migratory flocks. A few early sparrows arrived in the first part of April, but no records were set. Field, Vesper, Savannah and Swamp Sparrows were all recorded. A Fox Sparrow at Rockcliffe Park on March 30th was slightly early. Grasshopper Sparrows returned to their regular spot along the Leitrim Road behind the Ottawa Airport. They appeared to be present in greater numbers than in the past. Several new locations for this species were found just outside the Ottawa District, including one near Smiths Falls. Clay-coloured Sparrows were heard around Bell-Northern Research at Carling Avenue and Moodie Drive from May 14th through May 30th. This species was also heard along Woodroffe Avenue near Baseline Road.

Lapland Longspur and Snow Bunting: A very large flock of 90 Lapland Longspur in breeding plumage was seen on the Spring Roundup on May 17th. This is a high number for such a late date. Snow Buntings were seen into the first week of April.

Icterinae: Red-winged Blackbirds were the first of the black-birds to reappear, in early March. Eastern Meadowlarks returned as usual in late March, but in larger numbers than is normal for that time. On March 30th, one observer had 28 meadowlarks. These high numbers were probably due to the unusually mild weather in late March. Common Grackles and Brown-headed Cowbirds also became common around this time. Good numbers of Rusty Blackbirds were observed particularly along Huntley Town Line, around Dunrobin and at Bear Brook. Bobolinks and Northern Orioles were common by mid-May.

"Winter" Finches: The term "winter" is somewhat erroneous since not all finches lumped under this heading occur only in winter! However... Pine Grosbeaks were noted through March especially in the vicinity of the feeder on Fourth Line near Riddell Drive in Kanata. Purple Finches were recorded only occasionally. Although this species is present in varying numbers throughout the year, it can be surprisingly difficult to see in some years. House Finches continue to increase in the area with greater numbers reported each year. Red Crossbills, an erratic species to say the least, were much in evidence, with many reports for the District, including Constance Bay and the Jack Pine Trail, where a small flock was found on March 16th. There is speculation that a few pairs may be breeding here. Common Redpolls were indeed common this winter and continued to be so into April, when at least 600 were recorded on the 7th. As far as is known, no Hoary Redpolls were seen. Pine Siskins, yet another erratic species, are also present in good numbers this year, and several pairs have already fledged young. Siskins were found in the Arboretum, Vincent Massey Park, Rockcliffe Park and Clyde Woods, as well as in suitably treed yards. American Goldfinch numbers increased quickly during April, and this late-breeding finch could be heard and seen all over the place. Evening Grosbeaks usually taper off in May, although small flocks still occur, such as the six on May 17th on Morris Island. They don't wander too far, many breeding to the west through Arnprior and up past Renfrew.

House Sparrow: By early April, House Sparrows were nesting in the eaves of Michelle's neighbour's house. It would be interesting to study the impact of the House Finch on the House Sparrow population, since they share the same habitat. The impact may be minimal at present, but in a few years we may notice a decline in the House Sparrow.

Acknowledgements: The sightings reported above were taken from our own observations as well as those of many other birders. We would like to thank the following for sharing their sightings with us: Bob Bracken, Bruce Di Labio, Mark Gawn, Stephen Gawn, Tom Hanrahan, Ray Holland, Paul Martin, Frank Munro, Brian Penney and Richard Poulin. We would also like to thank Larry Neily for providing transcripts of the Bird Status Line sightings. ▀

The Loggerhead Shrike Survey

Report from Region 6

Christine Hanrahan

By now most people are aware that Loggerhead Shrikes are suffering a population decline. In 1987, a Loggerhead Shrike Survey and Monitoring Program was initiated in Ontario to obtain data on the number of shrikes in the province. Of special importance was the monitoring of breeding birds to determine their success rate.

For purposes of the survey, Ontario was divided into 13 regions, with the Ottawa District falling in Region 6. Regional Coordinators were found for each region, and volunteers were recruited. Each region was further divided into 10 km x 10 km squares as was done for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas. Region 6 (Figure 1) has 152 squares and encompasses a very large area extending west to Perth, east to the Quebec border, north to the Ottawa River and south to the St. Lawrence River. Gananoque, Prescott, Brockville and Cornwall are included within the area, as are places more familiar to Ottawa birders: Manotick, Dunrobin, Casselman and Alfred.

With such a large area to survey, many participants were needed. Fortunately, 32 people volunteered their time and covered 62 squares - not a bad start to the project! Many of the squares have, at best, only marginal habitat, while a number of others are devoid of any suitable habitat; therefore, part of our region does not require coverage. This cuts down the number of squares to be assigned and allows more time to be spent in the good areas. The best squares are those south of Smiths Falls in the Toledo - Plum Hollow - Athens - Rocksprings area. Here there is an abundance of excellent habitat, much of it quite undisturbed.

Seven pairs of Loggerhead Shrikes were found; four of these were confirmed as breeding (Figure 1). One pair in the Appleton area was present from April 11th but seemingly disappeared around the end of May. At first it was thought that they had moved a kilometre or so down the road, but subsequent repeated checks of the area failed to turn up the birds. Presumably they attempted nesting but abandoned the site in the middle of the breeding season. Unfortunately, we don't know what caused them to leave. Another pair, in the Perth area, was present for several weeks until they disappeared on April 23rd.

Of the four confirmed breedings, young were found at only three sites. The fourth pair was observed repeatedly carrying food to a hawthorn bush some distance from the road on private

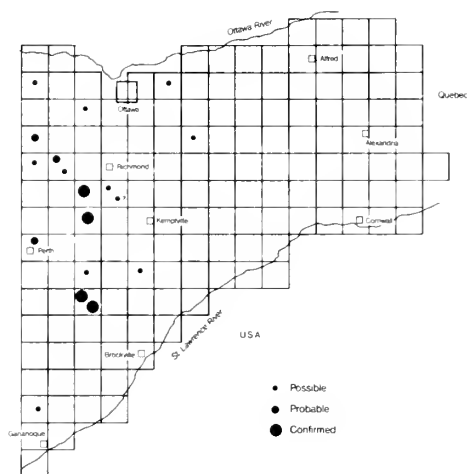


Figure 1. 1987 Loggerhead Shrike breeding data for Region 6. Note that two dots in a square indicate two separate sightings.

property. But by the time permission was given to check the site briefly, no young could be found and the nest was empty. The other three pairs had three, two and two young respectively. Two families were found less than three kilometres apart in the Toledo - Frankville area where extensive undisturbed habitat remains. Both sites were rough pastureland with stony outcroppings, hedgerows and many scattered hawthorns. Maples, oaks and cedars were present in good numbers at these sites as well. Three of the four pairs nested along gravel roads, while the fourth was close to a very busy main road. Powerlines were present at all sites and were utilized extensively by the shrikes.

Nests were found for three of the four breeding pairs. Two were in hawthorns approximately 1.5 m and 2.5 m high respectively, while the third was about 4 m up in a White Cedar. The fourth pair was found in an area of extensive hawthorns and presumably nested in one of these bushes.

Eleven single birds were also sighted during the survey. Most were seen only once, but one was observed three times in the same area between April 24th and May 20th, leading us to believe that a second bird was sitting on a nest close by. However, no bird could be found after that date although repeated visits were made.

Nine of the sightings were at or near known breeding sites. The rest were at locations not previously identified and for purposes of this survey can be considered "new" sites. Other known nesting sites were also checked this year; however, these locations remained unoccupied.

Provincially, the picture is not encouraging. At the time of writing, approximately 20 nests had been found: two or three in the Kingston area, six in the Peterborough area, four in our area, and the rest scattered across the other regions. It is to be hoped that this survey will continue for several years in order to give a more accurate picture of the status of the Loggerhead Shrike in Ontario. Continued cooperation of volunteers is essential for the success of this project, and I would like to thank all those who participated this year and put in so much time and effort. ▣

Christine wrote the above article in mid-July while packing for the Hanrahan's move west to Port Coquitlam, B.C. Both Christine and Tom have made considerable contributions to Ottawa birding. We wish them well in their new environment. JMR

Neck-banded Canada Geese

Bruce M. Di Labio

and Barbara Campbell



Have you noticed any Canada Geese wearing coloured neck bands lately? Cornell University has been coordinating a massive banding program designed to band over 30,000 Canada Geese between 1983 and 1988. Various U.S. government agencies are taking part in this program to determine the status of the Atlantic Flyway population and its wintering grounds.

Since the 1950s Canada Goose numbers have increased by two and a half times - which is quite a feat! Migration patterns have also changed. Birds used to overwinter as far south as Northern Florida but more recently have stopped at the Delaware - Maryland peninsula. "Historically, Canada Geese migrated as far south as was necessary to find adequate food and open water coast sites".* Results from this massive banding program will help to answer some of these questions as well as document their migration, behaviour and survival patterns.

* from a two-page, undated pamphlet, Neck Banded Canada Geese in the Atlantic Flyway by the New York Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Cornell University.

What to look for: Eight-cm wide yellow neck bands that have a black letter and number code placed vertically on the band. These birds are individually coded to allow them to be followed in different locations, as opposed to birds that have metal bands only and have to be captured to obtain the band number.

What to report:

1. Species (this program also includes some Snow Geese),
2. Colour of the neck band and complete code sequence,
3. Name, address and telephone number of the observer,
4. Date, time and location of sighting as exact as possible,
5. Size of the flock and the habitat the birds were observed in (e.g. cut corn field, wheat field, lake, pond, marsh, park).

NOTE: even if the code is not clear, please report your finding anyway.

Where to send sightings: Canadian Wildlife Service
Banding Office
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0E7.

The information will be forwarded to the banders and your sighting will be acknowledged. Specific information on your bird will be sent to you (e.g. where and when the bird was banded, its age and sex, and additional observations on your bird).

Sample Observations Submitted by Bruce Di Labio

<u>Band #</u>	<u>Date Observed*</u>	<u>Date Banded; Location</u>	<u>Age, Sex</u>
T7P7	11/05/1985	22/01/1985 Maryland	adult, female
T7P9	11/05/1985	22/01/1985 Maryland	imm., female
R2C1	11/05/1985	15/02/1985 Maryland	adult, male

** observations made on the Bear Brook at Regional Road 31.*

Note that the two females were banded together and were still together when observed at Ottawa; they could be a family group.

The information that you report will help to answer questions such as changes in food habits from browse to grains and changes in habitat that could be diet-related.

The project ends in 1988, so we encourage you to watch out for these birds and please send in your reports. ▀

The Ottawa Valley Spring Roundup 1987

Bruce M. Di Labio

This year's Spring Roundup was held on May 17th and was compiled by Tony Beck and Bruce Di Labio. A record total of 191 species was recorded, surpassing the previous record of 190 species set in 1973.

The weather for the day was unsettled with intermittent rain showers accompanied by 10 km/hr westerly winds and temperatures ranging from 10.6 to 14.1°C. All in all it was a dreary day weatherwise. The overall coverage was less than adequate, with some areas covered well and other areas lacking coverage. A total of 33 field observers took part.

Area	Section Leader	No. Observers	Species Recorded
southwest	Bruce Di Labio	9	165
southeast	Richard Brouillet	12	140
northwest	John Dubois	5	137
northeast	Jim Harris	7	151

Highlights of the count included a Willet at Shirleys Bay (first count record), four Little Gulls, two at Shirleys Bay and two near Thurso (also a first count record), and a male Cerulean Warbler singing along the Low-Poltimore Road (second count record). There were a number of late records and 16 species of shorebirds.

The Fall Roundup will be held on September 6th, the Sunday of the Labour Day weekend. All those interested please call Bruce Di Labio at 729-6267 as soon as you read this notice.

Ottawa District Spring Bird Count Results

<u>Species</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>Total</u>
Common Loon	10	2	4	3	19
Pied-billed Grebe	8	1		42	51
Horned Grebe	2		2		4
Double-crested Cormorant	21		4	2	27
American Bittern	11	4		8	23
Great Blue Heron	18	5	11	13	47
Green-backed Heron	3			2	5

<u>Species</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>Total</u>
Brant	26		14	50	90
Canada Goose	19	30	19	111	179
Wood Duck	30	9	14	12	65
Green-winged Teal	6	5		4	15
American Black Duck	66	30	31	27	154
Mallard	154	174	34	34	396
Northern Pintail		6		3	9
Blue-winged Teal	30	31	11	25	97
Northern Shoveler	11	16		6	33
Gadwall	5	4		4	13
American Wigeon		12	2	4	18
Ring-necked Duck			2	8	10
Greater Scaup	1		4		5
Lesser Scaup	28	10	12	4	54
Oldsquaw	100	2	140	15	*157
White-winged Scoter			2		2
Bufflehead		1			1
Common Merganser	7	1	19	15	42
Red-breasted Merganser	2		28		30
Turkey Vulture	4		6	3	13
Osprey	1		5	1	7
Northern Harrier	6	42		10	58
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	1		1	3
Red-shouldered Hawk	3				3
Broad-winged Hawk	1	2		4	7
Red-tailed Hawk	4	3	2	5	14
Rough-legged Hawk	1				1
American Kestrel	13	5	3	18	39
Merlin			1	1	2
Gray Partridge	4				4
Ring-necked Pheasant	4				4
Ruffed Grouse	13	2	10	21	46
Virginia Rail	15	10	1	12	38
Sora	1	5		4	10
Common Moorhen	5	2	2	60	69
American Coot				5	5
Semipalmated Plover	33	37			70
Killdeer	41	115	22	65	243
Greater Yellowlegs	10	2	1		13
Lesser Yellowlegs	17	8	1	2	28
Solitary Sandpiper	7	2	2	3	14
Willet	1				1

* Numbers do not add up to total given because the same birds were observed by different sections.

<u>Species</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>Total</u>
Spotted Sandpiper	35	32	23	28	108
Upland Sandpiper	2	18	3	4	27
Semipalmated Sandpiper	8		6	1	15
Least Sandpiper	656	314		5	975
Pectoral Sandpiper	3	1			4
Dunlin	6	11			17
Short-billed Dowitcher	18				18
Common Snipe	27	39	17	39	122
American Woodcock	4	5	3	26	38
Wilson's Phalarope	3	15			18
Little Gull	2			2	4
Bonaparte's Gull	57		6		63
Ring-billed Gull	3,391	170	676	100	4,337
Herring Gull	442	23	399	10	874
Glaucous Gull	1				1
Great Black-backed Gull	1		1		2
Common Tern	1	1	3		5
Black Tern	8	24	1	75	108
Rock Dove	306	572	64	30	972
Mourning Dove	58	75	25	19	177
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	2	1	1	5
Eastern Screech-Owl	1				1
Great Horned Owl	4	1	3	1	9
Barred Owl			2	1	3
Long-eared Owl		1		1	2
Short-eared Owl	1	3		1	5
Northern Saw-whet Owl			1	1	2
Common Nighthawk	2		2		4
Whip-poor-will	4	1	1	17	23
Chimney Swift	472	114	40	13	639
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	7	1	3	5	16
Belted Kingfisher	9	8	9	14	40
Red-headed Woodpecker			1		1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3		2	37	42
Downy Woodpecker	11	7	4	16	38
Hairy Woodpecker	9	3	5	8	25
Northern Flicker	24	69	19	37	149
Pileated Woodpecker	2		1	5	8
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	1	2		4
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	3		2	6
Alder Flycatcher	2	1		2	5
Willow Flycatcher				1	1
Least Flycatcher	6	7	33	67	113
Eastern Phoebe	7	7	15	18	47

<u>Species</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>Total</u>
Great Crested Flycatcher	21	44	26	46	137
Eastern Kingbird	51	55	47	54	207
Horned Lark	18	52	27	12	109
Purple Martin	399	44	61	6	510
Tree Swallow	1,621	575	513	326	3,035
N. Rough-winged Swallow	58	147	3	33	241
Bank Swallow	138	472	41	135	786
Cliff Swallow	204	20	8	316	548
Barn Swallow	295	277	140	221	933
Blue Jay	27	58	36	39	160
American Crow	149	123	119	67	458
Common Raven	2	1	6	8	17
Black-capped Chickadee	61	43	49	34	187
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	4	2	3	13
White-breasted Nuthatch	6	11	4	6	27
Brown Creeper	3		1		4
House Wren	7	12	6	7	32
Winter Wren	8	1	4	6	19
Marsh Wren	2			50	52
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4			8	12
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3	16	1	5	25
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			2		2
Eastern Bluebird	1		3	20	24
Veery	23	17	15	41	96
Gray-cheeked Thrush				1	1
Swainson's Thrush	4	3	2	12	21
Hermit Thrush	3	2		27	32
Wood Thrush	5	11	19	12	47
American Robin	301	300	148	261	1,010
Gray Catbird	29	38	14	36	117
Brown Thrasher	10	15	13	13	51
Water Pipit	2	140	70	60	272
Cedar Waxwing			2		2
Loggerhead Shrike	1		1		2
European Starling	576	797	304	236	1,913
Solitary Vireo	2			2	4
Warbling Vireo	53	101	34	42	230
Philadelphia Vireo	1				1
Red-eyed Vireo	23	4	7	16	50

<u>Species</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>Total</u>
Golden-winged Warbler				1	1
Tennessee Warbler	29	12	13	62	116
Orange-crowned Warbler		1			1
Nashville Warbler	65	25	32	46	168
Northern Parula	1		1	1	3
Yellow Warbler	118	458	69	420	1,065
Chestnut-sided Warbler	7	20	12	68	107
Magnolia Warbler	5		6	8	19
Cape May Warbler	2	11	3	3	19
Black-thr. Blue Warbler	2	5		6	13
Yellow-rumped Warbler	135	67	47	85	334
Black-thr. Green Warbler	16	5	7	22	50
Blackburnian Warbler	3	3	6	2	14
Pine Warbler	5	2		1	8
Palm Warbler	2	1		2	5
Bay-breasted Warbler	12	34	2	6	54
Blackpoll Warbler	1		2		3
Cerulean Warbler				1	1
Black & White Warbler	18	24	9	63	114
American Redstart	12	1	15	71	99
Ovenbird	31	71	25	63	190
Northern Waterthrush	11	10	3	5	29
Mourning Warbler		1		1	2
Common Yellowthroat	25	195	32	76	328
Wilson's Warbler		1			1
Canada Warbler	1		1	4	6
Scarlet Tanager	10	1	4	16	31
Northern Cardinal	4	15	2		21
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	45	52	23	67	187
Indigo Bunting			3	2	5
Rufous-sided Towhee	4	2			6
American Tree Sparrow				1	1
Chipping Sparrow	46	129	39	109	323
Clay-colored Sparrow	8	43			51
Field Sparrow	3	1	3	4	11
Vesper Sparrow	11	3	5	6	25
Savannah Sparrow	68	242	24	64	398
Grasshopper Sparrow	7	4			11
Song Sparrow	114	292	101	122	629
Lincoln's Sparrow		3		2	5
Swamp Sparrow	34	84	18	204	340
White-throated Sparrow	62	126	75	80	343
White-crowned Sparrow	40	45	100	88	273
Dark-eyed Junco		1		1	2
Lapland Longspur			90		90

<u>Species</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>Total</u>
Bobolink	256	800	179	274	1,509
Red-winged Blackbird	573	1,216	313	624	2,726
Eastern Meadowlark	58	87	54	41	240
Rusty Blackbird	1				1
Common Grackle	276	511	62	134	983
Brown-headed Cowbird	76	232	44	192	544
Northern Oriole	76	124	34	55	289
Purple Finch	8	6	4	22	40
House Finch	2	4	3		9
Red Crossbill		5			5
Pine Siskin	22	6	3	8	39
American Goldfinch	118	205	101	89	513
Evening Grosbeak	14	5	20	132	171
House Sparrow	152	301	52	56	561
<hr/>					
Total Species	165	140	137	151	191
<hr/>					

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APOLOGIES FOR VERY DELAYED MAILING OF *TRAIL & LANDSCAPE* #2

For those of you who were missed in the second issue mailing of *Trail & Landscape* and received your copy only much later, this was because:

- Lois Cody (who receives the renewal notices) was sick for a while,
- Barb Campbell (who pre-processes information for the computer) had a baby in March,
- Barb Martin (who does the computer work) went to Costa Rica for three weeks in February and March,
- there was a change of personnel (Eleanor Bottomley took over from Barbara Campbell).

We know our service was not up to scratch, but barring major catastrophes, it should improve.

Barb Martin

September at Dow's Lake

Peter Iveson

I stepped from a bus onto a glistening meadow of fresh dew. The rustle of passing morning rush-hour traffic passed. The rising sun slowly emerged through the haze. No one stirred in the handsome pavilion, while canoes and paddleboats waited. The calm dark surface of the lake was without ripple. As the asphalt path snaked along the reed-bordered waterside, fronds of weeping willows etched mysteriously against the haze of a new autumn day.

Suddenly a large waterbird was waddling in front of me. Long legs, gray-brown plumage with a long, swan-like neck. Certainly not a bittern, not an egret, most likely a Great Blue Heron. It seemed unafraid of humankind. The plumage was not brilliant. It had a long yellow beak, but no markings or crown of the Great Blue Heron. Perhaps an immature female. A watchful eye observed me from a mere two metres away while it eyed a slimy weedbed for a watery breakfast from a rock. I left.

Blackbirds flocked on swampsides red maples, while the morning breeze tumbled the cattails of the man-made wetland. An encroaching cirrus and mackerel sky heralded the onset of rain. The moon hovered above the Arboretum's pines. Crows sparrows, jays, Killdeer competed against encroaching aircraft. Slowly, the morning light diminished, a cold east wind rippled the now blue lake. The sedges, fragrant pink clover heads, tangled yellow milkweed, seeding loosestrife spikes and jewelweeds framed the now-agitated surface. Soon the cold bench and my frosty breath made me tread onwards. ▀

Know Any Good Beaver Stories?

Dr. James Cameron of York University is writing a book on the beaver's impact on the environment, both natural and man-made. He would appreciate hearing from any members who have had unusual or interesting experiences or who have stories to tell about beavers.

Send your account to: Dr. James M. Cameron
Chairman, Geography Department
York University
4700 Keele Street
North York, Ontario
M3J 1P3.

Point Pelee Excursion 1987

Frank Pope

This is a brief report on the Club excursion to Point Pelee National Park, May 7 to 10, intended to give readers a participant's impression of the trip. To simplify the presentation, I have rounded off the numbers slightly.

WHO WENT? Leaders Colin Gaskell, Roy John and Roger Taylor followed by 40 "birders" of varying skill levels

COST: \$250.00

WEATHER: Sunny, cool at dawn, warm at noon

BASE: Leamington

VISITED: Point Pelee, Rondeau, Stoney Point, Hillman Marsh, Comber sewage lagoon, Harrow sewage lagoon

USE OF TIME: We left Ottawa at 6 a.m. on Thursday, returned at 9 p.m. on Sunday. Call it 90 hours away. The 90 hours were spent in the following ways:

bus travel	15 hours
sleep	15 hours
breakfast, dinner, preparation time	15 hours
in the field	45 hours.

SAW: Altogether we saw 150 species. I saw 100 species.

lister's favourite	Cassin's Sparrow
everybody's favourite	Prothonotary Warbler
my favourite	Scarlet Tanager

ALTERNATIVE: How many of these birds could I have seen watching birds here in Ottawa on that weekend? Reference to the same weekend in *A Birder's Checklist of Ottawa* revealed that I could have seen three-quarters of them, were this an average year, some found with ease, some with effort, and some with difficulty.

But have I ever set aside a long weekend and seen 100 (or even 75) species? No! Could I find 100 species on a long weekend without the help of all those eyes and that expertise? No!

SIDE BENEFITS: good company, lovely walks in the woods and by the lake, wild flowers and trees

IMPRESSION: a great experience. ▀

Spring Birding at Presqu'île

Colin Gaskell

For more than 20 years, members of The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club have made an annual spring pilgrimage to Presqu'île Provincial Park. The object of their zeal has been to witness the sight of migratory waterfowl in the course of that timeless journey to the northern breeding grounds.

This year's excursion was held on April 5th. An enthusiastic group of 44 winter-weary birders, weighed down with spotting scopes and other paraphernalia, clambered aboard the bus at Carlingwood Shopping Centre. A light rain signalled our 6:35 a.m. departure, but it was not enough to dampen the collective spirit.

The bus trip down to Presqu'île was unusually quiet, probably due to the switch to Daylight Saving Time a few hours earlier. Noteworthy sightings between Ottawa and Brighton included a pair of Great Blue Herons, a Turkey Vulture, a Red-tailed Hawk, several American Kestrels, and a Common Raven being harassed by an American Crow. Fortified with an injection of caffeine en route, the busload of birders reached its destination shortly after 10 a.m.

The first scheduled stop was at a waterfowl viewing station set up near the Camp Office. Here the calm waters of Presqu'île Marsh afforded excellent looks at several species of diving ducks. Ring-necked Ducks and Redheads predominated, with limited numbers of Buffleheads, Common Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes, and a lone female Canvasback interspersed among the avian flo-tilla. Dabblers were in low attendance, with only token representation from Mallard, American Black Duck, Gadwall, American Wigeon and Northern Pintail.

Several White-tailed Deer dashed across Paxton Drive as the bus proceeded to Calf Pasture Point. From this vantage spot, the group was rewarded with marvelous views of Oldsquaws still in their winter plumage. The long "sprigs" or central tail feathers of the elegant males were clearly discernible from the shoreline. A pair of Horned Grebes in breeding finery was also visible, but they took perverse delight in diving each time scopes were focused on them.

The plaintive call of a rain-drenched Eastern Phoebe greeted our arrival at Presqu'île Point, where the lunch break was spent huddled under the overhang of the Park Museum. An industrious Brown Creeper on the trunk of a nearby tree vied for attention with more Oldsquaws and Common Goldeneyes riding the wind-tossed waves along the lakefront.

After lunch, a brief stop at Salt Point produced a mixed raft of both Greater and Lesser Scaups, as well as a brilliant male Northern Cardinal. Further along Bayshore Drive, American Coots and several male Canvasbacks were spotted drifting past the margin of the cattail marsh.

Tradition dictated a side trip to Owen Point on the southwest side of the peninsula. Three Herring Gulls, a single Great Black-backed Gull, and an estimated 2,000 Ring-billed Gulls were a mere sampling of the many thousands of birds that later in the season make Gull and High Bluff Islands one of the largest gull colonies in the Great Lakes region. Six Red-breasted Mergansers resting on the water were a new addition to our list.

The rest of our sojourn was spent in a futile attempt to locate a pair of Tundra Swans, reported hours earlier just west of the park. Three more species of ducks, two Canada Geese and a Common Snipe compensated somewhat for the absence of the elusive swans. A tired but happy lot of birders boarded the bus for the last time, and arrived back in Ottawa by 6:45 p.m.

The exceptionally mild weather in the two weeks preceding the trip had no doubt induced many waterfowl to seek out ice-free inland waterways beyond the park borders. However, a total of 18 species of ducks (listed below) represents the best Club figure since 1982. The final tally for the day comprised 51 species, of which 39 were recorded within the park.

I would like to thank in particular my co-leader, Rick Killeen, for his valuable assistance on this outing.

Duck Species Observed at Presqu'île Park

Wood Duck	1	Redhead	450
Green-winged Teal	18	Ring-necked Duck	500
American Black Duck	6	Greater Scaup	300
Mallard	88	Lesser Scaup	65
Northern Pintail	25	Oldsquaw	60
Blue-winged Teal	12	Common Goldeneye	45
Gadwall	4	Bufflehead	55
American Wigeon	26	Common Merganser	25
Canvasback	6	Red-breasted Merganser	8

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* * * * *

NEW BIRD STATUS LINE NUMBER: 596-4888

Coming Events

arranged by the Excursions and Lectures Committee
Ross Anderson (224-7768), Chairman

Times stated for excursions are departure times. Please arrive earlier; leaders start promptly. If you need a ride, don't hesitate to ask the leader. Restricted trips will be open to non-members only after the indicated deadlines.

Date to MUSHROOM FIELD TRIP

be decid- Leader: Jim Ginns

ed Meet: Supreme Court Building, front entrance,
Wellington Street.

This outing will be limited to 25 persons. Participants must register before September 20th by telephoning the Club number (722-3050 after 10 a.m.). When a date and location have been selected, registrants will be notified.

Saturday SHOREBIRDS AND WATERFOWL

5 Sept. Leader: Ray Holland (225-9655)

7:00 a.m. Meet: Britannia Drive-In Theatre, Carling Avenue.
Ducks and shorebirds along the Ottawa River will be the anticipated highlights. Binoculars are essential and waterproof footwear is recommended for this half-day outing.

Sunday FALL BIRD COUNT

6 Sept. Compilers: Bruce Di Labio (729-6267) and
Daniel Perrier (746-6716)

Participate in the annual count of the fall bird population within the 50-km radius circle of the Ottawa District. For details, telephone the compilers. (See last year's November-December *Trail & Landscape* for the results of the 1986 count.)

Tuesday OFNC MONTHLY MEETING
 8 Sept. MEMBERS' SLIDE NIGHT
 8:00 p.m. Meet: Salon, National Museum of Natural Sciences,
 Metcalfe and McLeod Streets.
 Admission: At least one natural history slide or a
 50¢ donation to the Alfred Bog Fund.
 This popular annual event will provide an excellent
 chance to share your favourite natural history slides
 and reminiscences of trips, both local and far a-
 field, with fellow members. Any number of slides up
 to 15 will be welcome, and up to 15 minutes will be
 allotted for each presentation. Those bringing the
 mandatory one slide need not speak if they do not
 wish to do so. Those bringing more than one or two
 slides please contact Rick Leavens (835-3336) to
 prearrange their presentations.

Wednesday BIRDING WITH GEORGE
 9 Sept. Leader: George McGee (733-1739)
 8:00 a.m. Meet: entrance gate to the Britannia Filtration
 Plant.
 Midweek birding for the retired but not-so-tired.
 (People "playing hooky" are also welcome.) Bring
 binoculars and waterproof footwear.

Sunday SEVENTH ANNUAL OFNC SEEDATHON
 13 Sept. Support the OFNC feeding operations by sponsoring a
 birder on the annual Seedathon. For information,
 telephone Bruce Di Labio (729-6267). Send your
 pledges to: SEEDATHON, The Ottawa Field-Naturalists'
 Club, Box 3264, Station C, Ottawa, Ontario K1Y 4J5.

Sunday ANNUAL PICNIC: BUS TRIP TO FITZROY PROVINCIAL PARK
 13 Sept. Meet: Sears, Carlingwood Shopping Centre, Carling
 8:00 a.m. Avenue at Woodroffe Avenue.
 Cost: \$10.00
 This beautiful spot on the banks of the Ottawa and
 Carp Rivers offers a rich blend of shrub thickets,
 open fields, second-growth forest, mature Bur Oaks,
 Basswoods and 200-year old White Pines. Birds in
 migration and the resident small mammals await your
 discovery. Cheddar cheese, apples and cake will be
 available, for which \$1.50 will be collected. Regis-
 ter by sending your cheque or money order (payable to
 The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club) to Ellaine
 Dickson, 2037 Honeywell Avenue, Ottawa K2A 0P7 at
 least ten days in advance. If we don't have enough
 people registered for the bus trip by September 11,
 it will be cancelled. Please include your name,
 address, telephone number and the name of the trip.

Sunday FALL BIRDING FROM MORRISBURG TO CORNWALL
 20 Sept. Leader: Bruce Di Labio (729-6267)
 7:00 a.m. Participants will visit various spots along the St. Lawrence River, including Nairne Island and the Cornwall power dam, to observe shorebirds, gulls and migrating landbirds. Dress warmly, wear waterproof footwear, and bring a lunch for this all-day outing. Binoculars and/or scopes are essential. Transportation will be by private cars. Only a limited number of participants will be accepted. To register and learn further details, telephone the leader.

Saturday DUCK WADDLE FOR BEGINNING BIRDERS
 3 Oct. Leader: George McGee (733-1739)
 8:00 a.m. Meet: entrance gate to the Britannia Filtration Plant.
 An excellent opportunity to learn to identify a variety of diving and surface-feeding ducks. It is to be hoped that participants will see Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers, two of the most beautiful species. Bring a snack and a hot drink for this half-day trip.

Sunday AUTUMN COLOURS BUS TRIP
 4 Oct. Leaders: Aileen Mason (722-2279) and
 9:00 a.m. Ellaine Dickson (722-3050)
 Meet: Supreme Court Building, front entrance, Wellington Street.
 Enjoy a scenic ride through the Outaouais region on the way to the Forest Educative Centre at Lac-La-Blanche. There will be some emphasis on tree identification as we explore portions of the interesting trail system. Crisp air, a leisurely pace and the splendour of autumn leaves will be the order of the day. Dress warmly and bring enough food for this all-day outing. The cost of the trip will be \$8.00 per person. Make your reservation by sending a cheque or money order (payable to The Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club) to Ellaine Dickson, 2037 Honeywell Avenue, Ottawa K2A 0P7, at least ten days in advance. Include your name, address, telephone number and the name of the outing.

Tuesday	OFNC MONTHLY MEETING
13 Oct.	BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER NATURAL WONDERS OF
8:00 p.m.	QUEENSLAND AND THE NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
	Speaker: Roger Taylor
	Meet: Auditorium, National Museum of Natural
	Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets.
	In September 1986 several OFNC members embarked on a
	28-day tour of Queensland and the Northern Territory

of Australia. The trip included visits to the tropical cities of Cairns and Darwin, Kakadu National Park (an area sacred to the Aborigines), the Great Barrier Reef and sub-tropical Carnarvon Gorge and Lamington National Parks. With the aid of slides produced by several excellent photographers in the group, tour leader Roger Taylor will take us through many of the visual highlights of the trip.

Friday VISIT TO INDIAN RIVER OBSERVATORY

16 Oct. Leader: Robert McCallum

7:30 p.m. Meet: Neatby Building, front entrance, Central
or, if Experimental Farm, Carling Avenue.

cloudy, Under the guidance of Robert McCallum, President of
Saturday the Ottawa Centre of the Royal Astronomical Society
17 Oct. of Canada, the Society's telescopes will be used for
7:30 p.m. viewing the night sky away from city lights. The
observatory is just west of the Mill of Kintail near
Almonte; maps will be provided at the meeting place.
Dress warmly and wear sturdy shoes or boots. Bring
hot refreshments and a flashlight covered with red
paper that will not interfere with your night vision.
The trip will be limited to the first 25 members
registering through the Club number (722-3050 after
10 a.m.).

Sunday TENTH ANNUAL JOINT OUTING WITH THE OTTAWA RIDEAU

18 Oct. TRAIL CLUB: PERTH WILDLIFE RESERVE AND THE MILL POND
9:00 a.m. CONSERVATION AREA

Meet: Sears, Carlingwood Shopping Centre, Carling
Avenue at Woodroffe Avenue.

The Perth Wildlife Reserve is billed as a Wildlife
Management Demonstration Area, employing improvement
of habitat for birds to create variety. Carson
Thompson, the manager, will lead a tour of the re-
serve, after which he will take us to the Mill Pond
Conservation Area, which features a variety of habi-
tats. There are interesting trees and a sugar bush.
Participants will assemble at the shopping centre,
and after car pools have been organized, will set out
for the parking lot at the Perth Wildlife Reserve.
For further information, call Eileen Evans (741-
0789).

Saturday BIRDS OF THE WEST END

24 Oct. Leader: Jim Harris (225-1766)

8:30 a.m. Meet: Entrance to the Britannia Filtration Plant.
The emphasis will be on ducks and fall migrants in
the west end of Ottawa. Bring a light snack and a
hot drink for this half-day outing.

Saturday GULLS AT THE CORNWALL AND BEAUHARNOIS POWER DAMS
7 Nov. Leader: Bruce Di Labio (729-6267)
8:00 a.m. Participants will visit two power dams on the St. Lawrence River to observe gulls and late fall migrants. Dress warmly, wear waterproof footwear, and bring a hearty lunch for this all-day trip. Binoculars and/or scopes are essential. Transportation will be by private cars. Only a limited number of participants will be accepted. To register and learn further details, telephone the leader.

Sunday SECOND ANNUAL CLUBS DAY AT THE VICTORIA MEMORIAL
8 Nov. MUSEUM
10 a.m. The National Museum of Natural Sciences extends an invitation to OFNC members to attend its second annual Clubs Day, to be held in the Museum's Salon. A wide range of displays will be provided by various clubs in the Ottawa area, with subjects related to the natural sciences. Admission is free.

Tuesday OFNC MONTHLY MEETING
10 Nov. EXPLORING CANADA BY CANOE
8:00 p.m. Speakers: Janice Dowling and David McNicoll
Meet: Auditorium, National Museum of Natural Sciences, Metcalfe and McLeod Streets
Join David and Janice to relive two four-month canoe journeys along the historic fur-trade routes between Saskatoon and Ottawa. Their slide/talk show lets us visit the fabulous people that live along the waterways of our nation and view the spectacular scenery that most Canadians may never see. Whether they are living in the lap of luxury at a fishing resort or clinging to the side of a wind-swept shore, their story is one that you will want to share!

Tropical Nature Tours

For all you outdoor enthusiasts with a taste for the exotic, Barbara Martin will be running three trips to Latin America this winter. For details, contact TRAVEL CUTS (offices in Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto) or contact Barbara Martin at 613-233-0447.

1. NATURAL HISTORY IN COSTA RICA: February 13 - 26, 1988, \$1,328 U.S. This is a repeat of the 1987 trip.
2. HIKING IN COSTA RICA: March 12 - 27, 1988, \$1,350 U.S.
3. NATURAL HISTORY IN PERU: April 26 - May 12, 1988, \$1,350 U.S. This trip is aimed at general nature-lovers.



FALL RHAPSODY

On weekends from September 19 to October 12th, the National Capital Commission is planning an interesting program of events to celebrate fall. Last year, 16 Club members contributed to the fun at a Bird Feeder Countdown display designed to show people the pleasures obtained from feeding birds in winter and the different kinds of feeders and seed available.

This year, the Club will again present this same sort of information, this time in the Market area. If you want to help out, please telephone Diana Thompson as soon as possible at 232-1748 (home) or 233-5653 (work).

* * * * *

THE OTTAWA DUCK CLUB

presents its

ELEVENTH ANNUAL WILDLIFE ART SHOW AND SALE

prints - painting - carving

Friday 23 October 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.
 Saturday 24 October 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
 Sunday 25 October 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

at the Nepean Sportsplex

Admission \$1.00

Come early for the best selection!

* * * * *

DEADLINE: Material intended for the November-December issue must be in the Editor's hands before August 29 at the latest.

Please note that the deadline for the following issue, the January - March 1988 issue, is October 1.

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